

REMARKS

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Office Action mailed June 16, 2008, which have been reviewed and carefully considered. Reconsideration and allowance of the present application in view of the amendments made above and the remarks to follow are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-15 and 17-22 remain in this application, where claim 16 had been canceled without prejudice and claims 21-22 had been added. Claims 1 and 18 are independent.

In the Office Action, claims 1-4, 6-8, 11-15 and 17-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,723,937 (Whitman). Further, claims 5 and 9-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Whitman. It is respectfully submitted that claims 1-15 and 17-22 are patentable Whitman for at least the following reasons.

Whitman is directed to a lamp having a light-scattering coating 26. As specifically recited on column 2, line 46, the light-scattering coating 26 contains light-scattering particles 30. As clearly shown in FIG 1(b), the light-scattering particles 30 are separated from each other and do **NOT physically overlap**. FIG 1(b) clearly shows that the particles 30 are NOT in physical contact with each other.

In stark contract, the present invention as recited in

independent claims 1 and 18, amongst other patentable elements requires (illustrative emphasis provided):

the structured arrangements physically overlapping over each other so that a first structured arrangement is in physical contact with a second structured arrangement.

A pattern that includes structured arrangements that are physically overlapping over each other so that a first structured arrangement is in physical contact with a second structured arrangement is nowhere disclosed or suggested in Whitman. Rather, the Whitman particles 30 are not in physical contact with each other as clearly shown in FIG 1(b).

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that independent claims 1 and 18 should be allowable, and allowance thereof is respectfully requested. In addition, it is respectfully submitted that claims 2-15, 17 and 19-22 should also be allowed at least based on their dependence from independent claims 1 and 18 as well as their individually patentable elements. Accordingly, separate consideration of each of the dependent claims is respectfully requested.

For example, a pattern that includes homogeneously overlapping rings, as recited in claims 21-22, are nowhere disclosed or suggested in Whitman. Further, FIG 4 of Whitman is merely related to transmittance and does not disclose or suggest that "the pattern is configured to reduce the discharge arc curvature," as recited in

claim 3. Moreover, column 4, lines 13-26 merely disclosed that the light-scattering particles should have a diameter of at least one-quarter the wavelength of red light, in order to efficiently scatter light across the entire visible spectrum. This in no way disclosed or suggests "the pattern covers a surface area of 2 mm² to 12 mm², said surface area being arranged over a brightest spot in the discharge arc," as recited in claim 9. In addition, FIG 3 of Whitman does not disclose or suggest that the pattern includes any lines, as recited in claims 13-14. Rather, FIG 3 of Whitman merely shows a lamp having a light-scattering coating 26.

In addition, Applicants deny any statement, position or averment of the Examiner that is not specifically addressed by the foregoing argument and response. Any rejections and/or points of argument not addressed would appear to be moot in view of the presented remarks. However, the Applicants reserve the right to submit further arguments in support of the above stated position, should that become necessary. No arguments are waived and none of the Examiner's statements are conceded.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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